

USP/EU GCCA CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION

Site Selection Methodology – Vanuatu Project Sites

A report of the method engaged in the selection of the three pilot sites in
Vanuatu

Bani W. Arudovo
10/11/2012

Contents

ACRONYMS	3
Introduction	4
Site selection process - methodology	4
Nominated sites	5
Pre-visits to nominated potential sites	5
Selection criteria	6
Locally drafted criteria	6
PMT criteria.....	7
Final selected sites	8
References	9
APPENDIX 1	10

ACRONYMS

PACE-SD	Pacific Centre for Environment and Sustainable Development
CCA	Climate Change Adaptation
EU	European Union
GCCA	Global Climate Change Alliance
USP	University of the South Pacific
ICC	In-Country Coordinator
PMT	Project Management Team
NPAC	National Project Advisory Committee
NACCC	National Advisory Committee on Climate Change
VANGO	Vanuatu Non-Government Organisation
NGO	Non-Government Organisation
NAPA	National Adaptation Program of Action

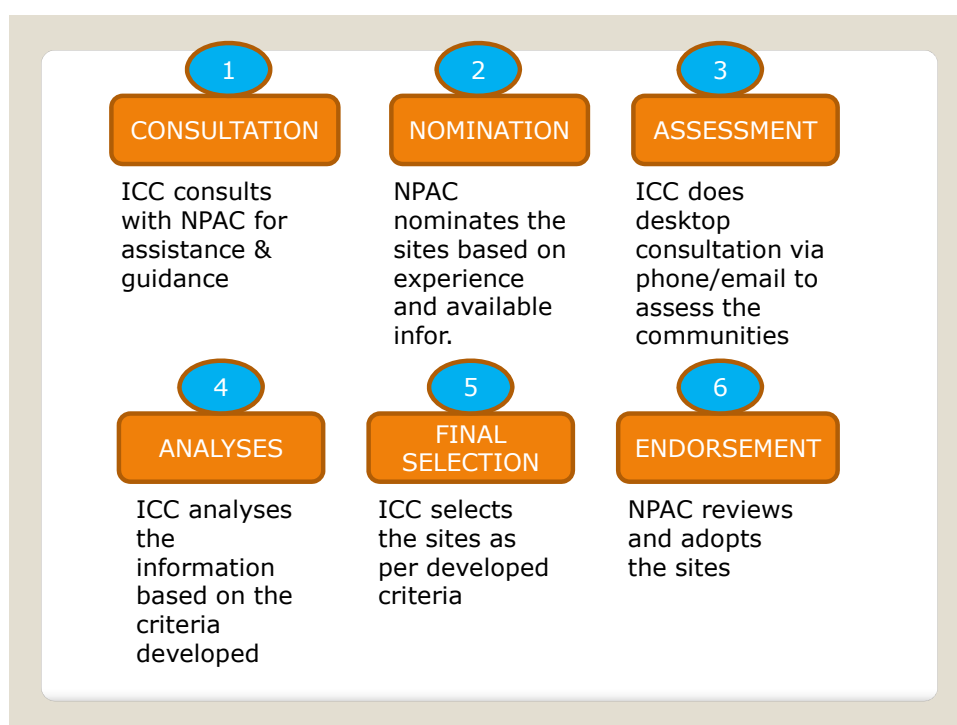
Introduction

The University of the south pacific and European Union global climate change alliance (USP/EU GCCA) project description, activity 2.2 (community engagement and awareness raising) stipulates that the ‘in-country coordinator will convene the National Project Advisory Committee (NPAC) to determine the process for community selection, drawing on guidelines to be prepared by the Project Management Team (PMT)’ (p.7). It further states that the PMT ‘will assist in....the process of nominations and criteria for short-listing’ (p.7).

The Vanuatu In-Country Coordinator (ICC) was recruited in June 2011 and the first NPAC meeting was called on the 7th October 2011. During this inception meeting, apart from basic introduction of the project, the terms of reference of the NPAC was introduced, revised and adopted. These terms of reference highlighted the joint responsibilities of the ICC and NPAC in nominating the pilot sites – with guidance from the PMT as aforementioned and in line with the National Adaptation Program of Action (NAPA). Attempt was made to nominate sites previously studied by the then National Advisory Committee on Climate Change (NACCC) and now NAB (National Advisory Board) however, these sites have either been taken by other Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) partners or are remotely located from Port Vila – the national administrative centre for the USP/EU GCCA project.

Site selection process - methodology

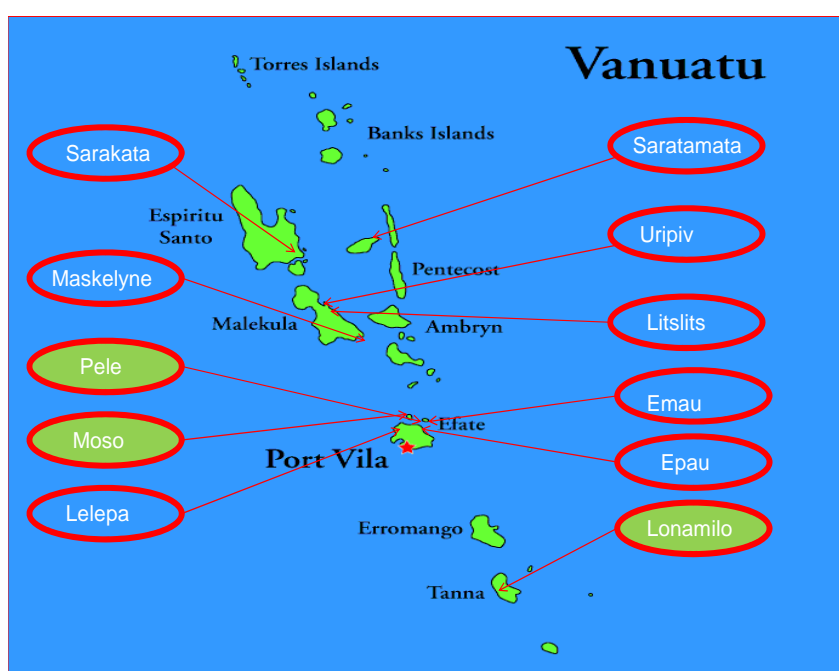
The flow chart below outlines the basic process with which the project pilot sites were selected in Vanuatu.



Nominated sites

Most of the NPAC members, having being technical and mid management personnel who have travelled widely in the islands, were equipped with information they could recall for many of the communities in the islands. Equipped with these and with added information from the NACCC the NPAC proceeded during the inception meeting to nominate and endorse six sites. The decision was taken since, as reported by the ICC, requests for PMT support in this exercise was to no avail and the project was fast approaching the end of the first twelve months.

The map below indicates the general locations of the sites.



Pre-visits to nominated potential sites

Rapid assessment was to be done, as per the project document, in the six potential sites nominated in order to verify the information supplied. However, a simpler and cheaper approach was undertaken as per superior advice. And that was to do a literature review of the sites nominated. However, handicapped by the fact that no published literature was available on the sites mentioned, the ICC was restricted to an alternative means – to improvise and make face-to-face or phone interviews with government and NGO personnel who have been to the sites. Another communication media engaged in this exercise was through electronic mail. Phone calls were also made to community leaders in the nominated sites to compare information supplied from the urban centres.

The pre-assessed sites were as indicated in the table below and locations as indicated in the map on page 5:

Community	Location (Island)	Scores	Selected
Sarakata river catchment communities	Espiritu Santo Island	x	-
Uripiv Island	Malekula off shore Island	3.5	-
Maskeylines Islands	Malekula offshore Island	x	-
Litslits	Malekula Island	3.5	-
Piliura/Pele Island	Efate offshore Island	3.9	✓
Marou/Wiana communities - Emau	Efate offshore Island	3.6	-
Lelepa Island	Efate offshore Island	3.4	-
Tasiriki/Moso Island	Efate offshore Island	4.0	✓
Epau	Efate Island	3.8	-
Saratamata	Ambae Island	3.2	-
Lonamilo	Tanna Island	4.6	✓

Selection criteria

Locally drafted criteria

As per appendix 1 the locally drafted selection criteria entails the following attributes.

1. Impacts of the community with regard to food and water (insecurity), coastal erosion, and sea water intrusion/inundation into freshwater lenses and coastal land areas
2. Village governance structures – whether or not they were in existence and were active
3. Stability – whether or not the villages were united (or divided by disputes)
4. Existing projects – whether or not projects were (or were soon to be) in existence and addressing the same issues
5. Past success stories – what were the experiences of past projects or government officers' experiences in the community
6. Technical resource people – whether or not there were existing technical resource people (such as government extension officers) in the area. This was deemed vital for

back up during activity implementation and for the sustainability of the activities when the project finally phases out

7. Access to schools – The community has to be accessible to schools and other communities in order to serve its purpose as a demonstrative pilot site
8. Physical access – as well as the access to other communities the community has to have regular travel links to the administrative centre (ICC base). Further, the cost of travelling to and fro by the ICC was also something that needed consideration
9. Other development risks – this included existing and proposed development activities that could likely jeopardize climate change adaptation activities in the community
10. Community interest – last but not least it was believed to be necessary to gauge the general level of community interest regarding the objectives of the USP/EU GCCA CCA project objectives

These 10 criteria were each allocated a score rating of 1-5. A score rating of 5 is a positive indication for engaging the project with the community while a score rating of 1 suggests inapplicability and, or that it was deemed not feasible to engage the project with the community of interest. During analyses, the scores for each of the criterion were summed up and averaged to get the community rating.

PMT criteria

The sites were jointly assessed using the locally drafted criteria and that supplied by the PMT. The PMT criteria covers all that were included in the locally drafted one but basically made special emphasis on specific issues such as:

- that critical sites would be those that suffer from at least two or more of the climate change vulnerabilities
- that water resources scarcity should be the highest priority followed by food insecurity and inundation and, or erosion of coastal sites
- to be inclusive and ensure other sites (that might not have been included in assessments undertaken already) were impartially considered
- to include other factors that might include those related to overcoming social and economic barriers

Final selected sites

The analyses of the information collected was undertaken using an NPAC drafted criteria for rating the sites and fortunately by the end of this exercise a PMT site selection criteria was available and was hence, used to fine tune the analyses and selection.

Since most of the six nominated sites failed to make it past the set criteria and also due to the fact that the exercise was done in a very less costly manner, a further five sites were added onto the list and were assessed and analysed.

Finally, the sites selected to be Vanuatu's pilot demonstration sites were Pele Island, Moso Island (Tassiriki) and Lonamilo community on Tanna Island. Moso and Pele were assessed to share the similar vulnerabilities and impacts regarding water and food scarcity in the event of an El Nino occurring as well as experiencing coastal erosion and saline intrusion into fresh water lenses. Lonamilo, on the other hand also faces water insecurity during the El Nino season and was assessed to be threatened with food insecurity during both the prolonged periods of wet and dry seasons. Being landlocked, coastal problems were not deemed a problem for this community.

References

- Bartlett, C: SPC/GIZ CCCPIR, interviewed January 2012
- Dalesa, O: Farming systems Officer, Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, interviewed January 2012.
- Dovo, P: Department of Forests, Vila, interviewed March 2012.
- Fred, N: Field worker, Vanuatu Kaljarol Senta, interviewed January 2012.
- Jimmy, DT: Chief of Lonamilo, interviewed November 2011.
- Kalmet, R: Department of Geology, Mines and Water Resources, interviewed February 2012.
- Kalsev, K: Chief and Church leader of Tassiriki village, Moso Island, interviewed January 2012.
- Kalsuak, I: Live and Learn Environment Office, Vila, interviewed November 2011.
- Laeyang, D: Forests Officer, Lakatoro, interviewed January 2012.
- Morris, K: Fisheries Officer, Lakatoro, interviewed January 2012.
- Nimoho, L: VANGO Office, Vila, interviewed March 2012.
- Obed, T: World Bank Office, Port Vila, interviewed January 2012.
- Petro, G: Wan Smol Bag Theatre, interviewed January 2012.
- Philips, B: Secretariat to the National Advisory Committee on Climate Change, interviewed December 2011.
- Sammy, E: Department of Geology, Mines and Water Resources, interviewed December 2011.
- Taiki, M: Live and Learn Environment Office, Vila, interviewed December 2011.
- Takaua, W: Acting Paramount Chief of Piliura, Pele Island, interviewed January 2012.
- Tavue, R: MESCAL Project Officer, Vanuatu, interviewed November 2011.
- USP/EU GCCA 2010, Annex I: Description of the Actions, pp. 1-33.
- Viraliliu, J: Live and Learn Environment Office, Vila, interviewed December 2011.

APPENDIX 1

Site assessment criteria for potential pilot sites (locally drafted)

5 - extremely high 4 - considerable 3 - low 2 - not really sure 1 - definitely not applicable, practical, or feasible

Community	Vulnerability to cc impacts (water & food insecurity, coastal erosion & sea water intrusion, etc.)	Gov. structures (exist & active)	Stability (disputes)	No Existing projects (Gov., NGOs)	Past success stories	Technical resource people available (Ag, Forestry, Fish...etc)	Access to schools	No Dev. that could negatively impact adaptation	Physical access	Partner interest (village interest in project)	Overall assessment
Sarakata catchment	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Uripiv island	3	4	3	3	4	5	4	2	3	4	3.5
Maskelyne Is.	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Marou/Wiana Emau Is.	4	4	4	3	5	3	3	2	3	5	3.6

Lelepa island	3	5	4	3	4	3	3	2	3	4	3.4
Lounamilo Tanna Is.	4	5	5	5	4	4	5	5	4	5	4.6
Litslits Malekula Is.	3	3	3	5	1	5	5	2	4	4	3.5
Tasiriki Moso Is.	4	4	4	5	4	3	4	3	4	5	4.0
Piliura Pele Is.	4	5	4	3	4	3	3	4	4	5	3.9
Epau Efate Is.	3	5	5	3	4	3	3	4	4	4	3.8
Saratamata Ambae Is.	5	2	2	3	3	4	5	2	4	2	3.2

NB. The three pilot demonstration sites selected, thus, are Lonamilo, Pele and Tasiriki (Moso). The Sarakata water catchment has been deliberately left out due to the vastness of the area, which covers a number of villages and larger scale farmers, making it not very feasible to tackle given the available budget.

Likewise, Maskelyne Islands have been left out due to their remoteness and the infrequent air traffic to the nearest airstrip. On the other hand, Marou/Wiana on Emau Is. and Saratamata on the island of Ambae (though have been indicated to experience considerable impacts) have been scored low due to confirmation of similar projects soon to be implemented via UNDP funding, and which target climate change related problems to the cross section of the communities' geography (ridge to reef project).